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SUBJECT:
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Inventor: Kuolih Tsai et al.
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TO:
Examiner Nicholas C. Kokkinos
(Fax No. 571 270 8384)

FROM:
Edward M. Kriegsman, Esq.
Reg. No. 33,529

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Comments:

Dear Examiner Kokkinos:

As you requested by telephone earlier today, transmitted herewith please find a listing of claims in which claim 104 has been canceled and the remaining claims have been made to depend ultimately from claim 164.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward M. Kriegsman
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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-104 (Canceled).

105. (Currently amended) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim ~~104~~ 164 wherein said heat-activatable adhesive layer has a surface roughness not exceeding about 5 microns.

106. (Previously presented) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim 105 wherein said heat-activatable adhesive layer has a surface roughness less than 1 micron.

107. (Currently amended) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim ~~104~~ 164 wherein said heat-activatable adhesive layer comprises one of a polyester adhesive resin, a polyamide resin, and a polyvinyl chloride adhesive resin.

108. (Original) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim 107 wherein said heat-activatable adhesive layer comprises a polyester adhesive resin.

109. (Original) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim 107 wherein said heat-activatable adhesive layer comprises a polyvinyl chloride adhesive resin.

Claim 110 (Canceled).

111. (Currently amended) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim ~~104~~ 164 wherein said ink design layer further comprises a marking made by one of thermal transfer printing, ink jet printing and laser printing.

112. (Previously presented) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim 111 wherein said marking is made by thermal transfer printing.

Claims 113-116 (Canceled).

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117. (Previously presented) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim 111 wherein said ink design layer further comprises a design comprising a non-cross-linked polyvinyl chloride ink.

Claims 118-163 (Canceled).

164. (Previously presented) A heat-transfer label suitable for labeling fabric comprising:

(a) a support portion; and

(b) a transfer portion, said transfer portion being positioned over said support portion for transfer of the transfer portion from the support portion to an article of fabric under conditions of heat and pressure, said transfer portion comprising

(i) an ink design layer, said ink design layer comprising a thermochromic ink design; and

(ii) a heat-activatable adhesive layer, said heat-activatable adhesive layer having a thickness of about 10 to 200 microns and having a surface roughness not exceeding about 10 microns;

(iii) wherein said ink design layer is printed directly onto said heat-activatable adhesive layer, said heat-activatable adhesive layer being positioned between said ink design layer and said support portion, said ink design layer having a top surface opposite said heat-activatable adhesive layer, said top surface being exposed to permit its direct contact with a fabric to be labeled.

165. (Previously presented) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim 164 wherein said heat-activatable adhesive layer has a thickness of about 200 microns.

166. (Previously presented) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim 164 wherein said heat-activatable adhesive layer has a thickness of about 20 to 80 microns.

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167. (Previously presented) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim 166 wherein said heat-activatable adhesive layer has a thickness of about 80 microns.

168. (Currently amended) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim ~~104~~ 164 wherein said support portion comprises a release coating and wherein said release coating is made of a non-wax, non-silicone, release material.

169. (Previously presented) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim 168 further comprising a wax layer positioned between said release coating and said transfer portion.

170. (Previously presented) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim 169 wherein said heat-activatable adhesive layer is in direct contact with said wax layer.

171. (Currently amended) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim ~~104~~ 164 wherein each of said ink design layer and said heat-activatable adhesive layer has a periphery, the periphery of said ink design layer not exceeding the periphery of said heat-activatable adhesive layer.

172. (Currently amended) The heat-transfer label as claimed in claim ~~104~~ 164 wherein said ink design layer further comprises a first marking and a second marking, said first marking being made by one of thermal transfer printing, ink jet printing and laser printing, said second marking being made by screen printing.